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## The BG News February 5, 2008

Bowling Green State University

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**Tuesday**

February 5, 2008  
Volume 102, Issue 97  
WWW.BGNEWS.COM

CAMPUS

## Is a double major worth the effort?

Students may want to pursue two subjects, but getting an additional bachelor's degree may not reap the rewards of a master's degree, some University advisers say

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WORLD

## Military admits to killing 9 civilians

In the 'deadliest known case of mistaken identity in months,' the U.S. accidentally kills nine Iraqis during an attack aimed at al-Qaida

| Page 9

STATE

## Former Canton officer on trial for woman's death

Bobby Cutts Jr. faces charges of strangling a woman who was pregnant with his child last summer in a media-saturated case

| Page 10

FORUM

## Opposing the war in Iraq is racism

Refusing to help Iraqi citizens and to fight the War on Terror would be to say the lives of American soldiers are more valuable than those of the Iraqi people, writes columnist Brian Kutzley

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SPORTS

## Pettitte enters drug-use talks

The Yankees pitcher spoke under oath in front of a congressional committee yesterday as part of a Feb. 13 public hearing regarding Roger Clemens' denial of drug allegations

| Page 7

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What are your plans for Mardi Gras?



**WHITNEY HASHBARGER**  
Sophomore, Journalism

"Probably eating massive amounts of food and not feeling bad about it."

| Page 4

WEATHER

**TODAY**  
T-Shower, Wind  
High: 49, Low: 33

**TOMORROW**  
Rain/Snow  
High: 34, Low: 21

# Students discuss 'Falcon issues' at forum

By Kristen Vasas  
Reporter

ONLINE: USG passed the 21st bi-day e-mail with changes, go to bgnews.com to learn more.

Everything from toilet seat covers to parking problems was discussed at last night's Undergraduate Student Government open forum: "What are your Falcon Issues?"

USG President Johnnie L. Lewis began the discussion by opening the floor to students eating in the Union.

"This is not just me giving a speech to you," Lewis said. "It's not just me talking to you, but you talking to me."

One of the first issues brought up was the idea of an off-campus shuttle bus that would travel

to both Meijer on East Wooster Street and Wal-Mart on South Main Street.

"I don't have very many friends who drive or who have a car," senior Terri Melton said. "Having a shuttle that would take us to those places just opens the doors wider."

In response to the issue, Lewis reminded Melton that USG is currently working on creating a downtown and off-campus shuttle bus which would be funded

See USG | Page 2



BRIAN BORNHOEFF | THE BG NEWS

**DISCUSSING THE ISSUES:** USG President Johnnie L. Lewis addresses student concerns during the open forum held at 6 p.m. in the Student Union. The open forum topics included commuter parking, off-campus shuttles and bathroom sanitation.



## Students reminded to be pet-smart

By Theresa Scott  
Reporter

Cute kittens, adorable puppies and funny ferrets — who hasn't thought of adopting a pet and hiding it in a dorm room closet?

But before you head to the nearest pet store, you may want to consider the consequences of that furry friend, MacDonald West resident adviser Heather Hopkins said.

As every person who has ever lived in a residence hall knows, the only pets allowed are ones that can fit inside a fish tank. Still, plenty of people have tried.

"The weirdest story I've ever heard was about someone bringing in a dog and letting it poop over everything," Hopkins said.

Hopkins said she has to report any instance of pets to the hall director if she becomes aware of a castaway cat while doing

See PETS | Page 2

## Mardi Gras feast serves students and campus dining

By Ryan Sullivan  
Reporter

It's Mardi Gras and University students don't have to be left out of the celebration.

The holiday — also known as Fat Tuesday — is celebrated by Catholics and others looking for an excuse to enjoy food, drinks and beads before Lent begins tomorrow.

Today students can enjoy a free, Mardi Gras-inspired food sampling sponsored by University Dining Services and Gordon Food Service in the Union Ballroom before they give up items such as their favorite soda or daily chocolate.

The sampling will help the University decide which new foods to add to next year's menus, said Nancy Joseph, associate director for dining services.

GFS, which provides much of the University's food supply, will bring a range of products for students to test.

Last year's event led to dining hall additions such as fire-grilled salmon, deep-fried green beans, pepperoni Bosco Sticks and several flavors of Jet Tea, Joseph said.

Campus dining centers will also be offering special menu options, she said.

"Each [dining service center] will feature something unique," Joseph said. "A lot of students don't venture out. We are trying to get them to explore the other dining centers on

campus."

At least one local bakery in town is also getting into the Mardi Gras spirit.

Stimmel's Market on West Wooster Street has been making paczkis since Saturday and isn't going to stop until the celebration comes to an end, manager Matthew Stimmel said.

Paczki, a doughnut-like pastry which originated in Poland, was originally used to celebrate Fat Tuesday because several of its ingredients were forbidden during Lent.

"It is a way to indulge in gluttony," Stimmel said. "It's to celebrate everything you can't do for the next 'X' amount of days."

He said the American paczkis tradition started in Detroit and expanded across the country.

Stimmel and his employees bake 400 dozen paczkis between the prior Saturday and Fat Tuesday.

Almost every pastry is gone by the time the store opens again on Wednesday, Stimmel said.

Some students on campus are already planning to use Fat Tuesday as an excuse to "indulge in gluttony."

See FEAST | Page 2



WWW.SXC.HU

## Presidential race heats up before Super Tuesday

By David Espo  
The Associated Press

**"We're going to hand the liberals in our party a little surprise."**

Mitt Romney | Primary candidate

WASHINGTON — Buoyed by cheering crowds and bolstered by more than \$1.3 million a day in TV ads, Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton raced through the final hours of an unpredictable Super Tuesday campaign across 22 states. The Republican race turned negative on the eve of the busiest day in primary history.

"We're going to hand the liberals in our party a little surprise," boasted Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor, criticizing John McCain for his positions on tax cuts, gay marriage and immigration and predicting an upset win in delegate-rich California.

McCain struck back a few hours later yesterday with a television ad that showed Romney in a 1994 debate against Democratic Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, saying he was "an independent during the time of Reagan-Bush. I'm not trying to return to Reagan-Bush."

Outwardly, McCain projected confidence, not only about wrapping up the nomi-

nation but about November's general election as well. "I can lead this nation and motivate all Americans to serve a cause greater than their self-interest," he said while campaigning at a fire station in New Jersey.

Unwilling to leave anything to chance, both men hastily rearranged their schedules to make one more late stop in California, the largest state, with 170 delegates.

After months on the road, the wear on the candidates was showing, and the schedules strained human endurance.

Clinton's voice was raspy, and at one stop, she struggled to control her coughing.

Romney had breakfast in Tennessee, was in Georgia at lunchtime, was touching

See PRIMARIES | Page 2

**HISTORY'S MYSTERIES ABOUT THE CITY:** Check out the final part of the three-part series about the formation of Bowling Green in tomorrow's paper.

## Prosperity in BG: from oil to glass

By Kate Snyder  
Reporter

Reminiscent of the California Gold Rush, thousands of people once flocked to Wood County when oil was discovered in the late 1880s.

"The oil they discovered around here wasn't very good oil," said Michael McMaster, education programs coordinator at the Wood County Historical Center. "It had a lot of sulfur in it."

But there was a lot of it.

One-third of crude oil produced in the United States came from Ohio, especially Northwest Ohio, according to the Black Swamp Memories Web site. In September 1896, 5,500 oil wells ran in Wood County, making it the lead county in oil production.

"People who owned land where oil was discovered made lots of money," said Matthew Bloom, a doctoral student in the history department.

Several buildings were built on oil money, including the courthouse and houses found west of Main Street.

The population also skyrocketed. Findlay's population jumped from 4,633 to 14,000 in three years, according to an online Archive Chronicle.



JEROME LIBRARY ARCHIVE

**BLACK GOLD:** After oil was discovered in Northwest Ohio in the late 1880s, thousands of people moved to Wood County. This migration caused the population of Bowling Green to explode.

The glass industry moved in from New England to set up shop in Toledo, using the oil as a fuel for glass manufacturing. Bloom said. Edward Libbey was the glass

manufacturer, and he started the Toledo Museum of Art with the profits from his business.

See HISTORY | Page 2



## BLOTTER FRIDAY

6:06 P.M.

A laptop computer power supply cord was reported stolen in the technology building.

## SATURDAY

4:20 A.M.

Jesus Torrez, of Bowling Green, was cited for vehicle damaging. An officer was assisting somebody when he heard a thumping sound. Turning around, he saw Torrez throwing ice balls at his police cruiser.

## SUNDAY

1:04 A.M.

Jeffrey Krahenbuhl, of Springboro, Ohio, was cited for an open container.

7:40 P.M.

Mark A. Stevens, 43, of Bowling Green, was arrested for disorderly conduct while intoxicated and criminal trespassing.

## MONDAY

1:37 A.M.

A man was reported to be masturbating and taking photos in a car parked outside Days Inn on East Wooster Street.

2:11 A.M.

Alexander M. Bowles, 18, of Bowling Green, was arrested for public indecency.

**ONLINE:** Go to bgnews.com for the complete blotter list.

## CORRECTION POLICY

We want to correct all factual errors. If you think an error has been made, call The BG News at 419-372-6966.

## FEAST

From Page 1

Sophomore Eric Dickerson seemed optimistic about the chance to celebrate.

"It sounds like an excuse to drink to me," Dickerson said. He had yet to purchase his Mardi Gras beads.

## Did You Know...

No piece of normal-size paper can be folded in half more than 7 times.

Try it yourself

## PETS

From Page 1

room checks.

"We really have to check the rooms very carefully when doing room checks to make sure there are no fire hazards," Hopkins said. "So if you have some kind of pet in there, we will find it."

Keeping a pet can also be a hassle off campus. Freshman Alexandria Mock said her Pekingese dog, Latisha, can sometimes be a pain.

"It's hard to train a dog while you work and go to school," Mock said. "She has gone to the bathroom on mine and my roommate's beds a couple of times and my roommate was not too happy about that."

In addition to the pains of puppy accidents and upset neighbors, owning a pet off campus can get you into some legal trouble as well.

According to The Enclave's lease, the tenant "shall not bring, or allow any of its guests to bring, onto the premises, common areas or the facility any animal [except Seeing Eye dogs]."

Breaking the terms of a lease could lead to fines or possibly stronger consequences, including eviction.

Not all landlords prohibit pet ownership. Both John Newlove and Carty Rentals offer pet-

## "I wouldn't recommend keeping a pet in that tiny room."

Heather Hopkins | Resident Adviser

friendly properties as long as the tenant pays an additional pet deposit. The apartment complex Varsity Square allows pets in all of its units.

Junior Jessica Lucko said that the reason she signed a lease with John Newlove was because of their policy on pets.

"I have a cat at home and I wanted to bring him up," Lucko said. "I just figure I might as well be better safe than sorry."

Despite the potential problems, most animal lovers believe it is all worth it when it comes to man's best friend.

"I could never give up my dog!" Mock said. "I have grown too attached and I love her way too much!"

Hopkins argues that while pets can be adorable, it is probably best to wait until you move off campus.

"I wouldn't recommend keeping a pet in that tiny room," Hopkins said. "You are going to get caught, and when you think about it, it's kind of cruel to keep an animal locked up all day."

## PRIMARIES

From Page 1

down in Oklahoma at the dinner hour and was scheduled to arrive in California for a rally just before midnight local time.

All before flying through the night so he could attend the West Virginia state convention this morning.

The Democrats were spending unprecedented amounts of money on television advertising. Records showed Obama and Clinton each spent \$1.3 million last Wednesday and have been increasing their purchases in the days since.

Obama spent about \$250,000 to run a 30-second ad during the Super Bowl in selected, less expensive regions. Clinton bought one hour of time on the Hallmark Channel for yesterday evening to air a live town hall meeting from New York.

The prize in each race was a huge cache of delegates on the biggest primary-season day ever.

In all, there are 1,023 delegates to the Republican National Convention at stake in primaries in 15 states, caucuses in five and the West Virginia state convention.

Several award all their delegates to the winner, and McCain was favored in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware and his home state of Arizona, with 251 delegates combined.

Romney hoped to counter with victories in Utah and West Virginia, as well as in a string



**Hillary Clinton**

Democratic  
primary candidate



**Barack Obama**

Democratic  
primary candidate



**John McCain**

Republican  
primary candidate



**Mitt Romney**

Republican  
primary candidate

of caucuses in Western and Midwestern states.

But his task in several Southern and border states — Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, Oklahoma and Missouri — is complicated by the presence of Mike Huckabee on the ballot.

The former Arkansas governor was in Tennessee, where he said Wal-Mart Republicans knew long before Wall Street that the economy was headed for trouble. "They were paying more for their fuel and more for their health care and their kids' education, but their paychecks weren't going up enough to cover all those things that were costing more," he said.

## HISTORY

From Page 1

Bowling Green also saw its own telephone operation soon after the turn of the century, called the Oil Belt Telephone Co., the Web site said.

"The Marathon Oil company had its beginnings at that time," Bloom said. "J.D. Rockefeller looked at Northwest Ohio as a place for oil."

But as good as it was for the economy, it was bad for the environment.

"There were lakes of oil — not ponds, but lakes — sitting on the surface before they could contain it," McMaster said. Birds would land on them, thinking it was water.

Oil blanketed the towns, regularly causing fires. Workers would use nitroglycerin to blow the oil out of the ground, often blowing up parts of the town in the process.

About 12 miles south, in Cygnet, Ohio — one of the major oil cities at the time — houses would catch on fire and factories would explode. Many people were killed, and a few were buried in cemeteries sprinkled through southern Wood County and into Indiana, where oil was most plentiful.

According to the Black Swamp Memories Web site, a particularly bad fire swept through Cygnet in September 1897. A well was drilled and oil spilled, but the boiler fire that powered the machine was not put out in time. A nearby wagon containing nitroglycerin exploded, killing six people and demolishing the buildings in town square.

"It was a treacherous business back in the day," McMaster said, but only until the 1920s, when



**OIL BOOM:** As prosperous as the oil discovery was to Wood County, the method of obtaining oil from the ground was particularly hazardous, often resulting in explosions.

the oil supply dried up and nearly everything vanished.

They sucked all the oil out so fast that it just couldn't last, Bloom said. The technology used to extract oil wasn't as advanced as it is today.

Eventually, "it would take them a long time to fill up a glass jar," he said.

According to the Archive Chronicle, the supply of gas and oil far exceeded the demand and "nobody practiced conservation." "Lights and stoves were left burning 24 hours a day," the chronicle said. "Gradually, the supply of gas began to decrease."

At that time, bigger and better oil fields found farther west caused people to lose interest in Ohio.

"By the 1920s, oil industry moved west into Oklahoma and Texas into bigger oil fields out there," McMaster said.

Areas that once boasted thou-

sands of people soon became ghost towns.

At one time, the biggest towns, like Cygnet, had about two hotels, five bars, a prostitution house, factories, and were quite large, McMaster said.

"There's not even two slabs of concrete sitting side by side anymore."

Many of the towns went out in the 1920s when the oil was depleted, and some of them have been sitting for 100 years, struggling to keep together the few buildings that still exist.

Though around 200 oil wells still operating in Wood County, the industry is nothing like it was in the 1880s.

Today, a lot of people have forgotten about the oil boom, McMaster said. "People who lived here all their lives are surprised to hear there was oil here."

## USG

From Page 1

through a transportation fee.

Yet another parking issue was the prospect of making commuter lots residential and turning overflow and Lot 6 into commuter lots.

"It would actually benefit commuters because they wouldn't get up so early in the morning to find parking spaces that don't exist," junior Candice Constant said. "With all the safety issues on campus, it just would be nice for

residential students to park close to their dorms."

Although hesitant about the issue, Lewis said if an effective shuttle system were installed, the idea would not be a bad one.

"If we had a shuttle service that traveled back-to-back every five minutes, it could work," he said.

On a different level, freshman Chantay Walker addressed the sanitary conditions of residence hall bathrooms.

"I live in Compton, and the toilets are just disgusting," she said. "I want toilet seat covers to be put in

every stall."

Lewis promised to talk to University staff who already order sanitary products to see what the cost and the chances are of installing seat covers some bathrooms across campus.

And though all issues cannot be addressed right away, Lewis said the issues discussed would eventually be tackled.

"If you don't tell a senator or me about issues you want resolved, it's really hard to fix them," he said. "We're here to represent you. Let us do it."

## City Council votes to expand Wood County Hospital

By Tim Sampson  
City Editor

### Hospital Re-zoning

City Council unanimously approved a zoning resolution related to construction and expansion of the Wood County Hospital, following an hour-long public hearing on the issue.

The resolution is related to the hospital's plan to add a new section of parking lot on its east side near a number of residential homes.

City Council voted to re-zone the land as S-3 Planned Institutional land, meaning the hospital will be

allowed to construct an 86-space parking lot rather than a slightly smaller lot of 60 spaces.

Neighboring residents who addressed council at the meeting were concerned the new parking lot would take away their enjoyment of the now-vacant field adjoining their homes.

But council members pointed out that the land does belong to the hospital, and they have the right to make use of it.

"A parking lot is going to be built here either way," Councilman-At-Large Robert McOmber said. He said last night's vote simply determined the size of the lot.

### Private vs. Public Streets

Homeowners of the Larch Landing housing development presented council with a petition requesting to have their streets declared public in order to receive full city services.

Currently, the streets in this housing sub-division located off of West Wooster Street are considered private and not dedicated public streets. Consequently, the residents do not receive city services like trash and recycling collection and snow removal.

Council did not take any immediate action concerning the petition at the meeting.



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**GET A LIFE**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Some events taken from events.bgsu.edu

8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Ash Wednesday Mass**  
Union Easel in Mezzanine

8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

**Exhibit #7: "Student Art Glass Association Exhibit"**  
130 Union

8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

**Muslim Student Association Prayer Room**  
204 Olscamp

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Rebecca Kaler - Paintings**  
The Little Gallery

11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Mardi Gras**  
BGSU Firelands Campus

Noon - 1 p.m.

**Weight Watchers**  
315 Union

1 - 5 p.m.

**Resume Open House**  
116 Conklin North

1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**Women's Chorus Ball**  
Union Table Space

2 - 4 p.m.

**Dining Services & GFS Free Food Sampling Show**  
Union Ballroom

4 - 5 p.m.

**FYSS - Budgets: Making the Most of Your Money**  
316 Union

6 - 7:30 p.m.

**SMART Study Tables**  
Jerome Library 7th Floor

6 - 9 p.m.

**College Bowl**  
314 Union**HOW TO WORK A JOB FAIR**

DETRICK HALE | THE BG NEWS

**POTENTIAL EMPLOYMENT:** Jessica Turos, left, gives advice to students Ian Oxender and Steve Gombach about how to present themselves in front of an employer.**Athletes consider importance of faith when signing college-ball contracts**By Pete Iacobelli  
The Associated Press

CLEMSON, S.C. — On one of the first visits to Clemson coach Tommy Bowden's office, prized recruit Dalton Freeman noticed the Bible on the desk.

Freeman, an active church-goer, learned that studying the Bible was as essential to Bowden's routine as breaking down an opponent's game plan.

"It's part of my daily life," Bowden told Freeman.

"Kids have a lot of respect for coaches when they hear that," said Ben Freeman, Dalton's father as well as his high school coach at Pelion High.

When Kenneth Page, an offensive lineman from A.C. Flora High, outlined his college choices last month, he noted Bowden was a "good Christian man."

Both Freeman and Page have pledged to attend Clemson.

Tomorrow, hundreds of other prospects across the country will officially sign to play college ball. They weighed factors like academics, playing time, coaching staff and a campus' quality of life. For some, a place to grow spiritually was also high on the list.

There's a reason, Bowden says, the Southeast is called "the Bible belt." To not discuss faith in some fashion with prospects and their families, "to me, I think you make a mistake."

It's often difficult, according to coaches, family members, ana-

TD: Coach Tommy Bowden celebrates with a player after a touchdown.  
MARY ANN CHASTAIN | AP PHOTO

lysts and even the recruits themselves at times, to pinpoint what factor got them to sign.

"I've seen it from every angle," said Grant Teaff, the former Baylor coach.

**A 2008 V-Day Campaign Event to Stop Violence Against Women and Girls**ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES (OWI)  
IS PROUD TO PRESENT  
**V-DAY BGSU 2008****1(00) VDAY**A production of Eve Ensler's  
**The Vagina Monologues**February 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
8pm (doors at 7:30)Venue: Olscamp Room 101, BGSU  
Tickets: Available at the Student UnionRemaining tickets will be sold at the door.  
Proceeds benefit The Cocoon Shelter, BG**Adviser: Double majoring may not be the most marketable option for Univ. students**By Kristen Zenz  
Reporter

With more than 200 undergraduate programs, it can be hard for ambitious students to choose one major. Luckily, they have the option of studying two different concentrations.

There are three ways to obtain two simultaneous degrees. The most common way is to double major, said Allison Graham, an adviser in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Students can double major if their concentrations fall within the same degree. For example, biology and chemistry are both bachelor of science degrees. Upon completion of general education courses, students move on to complete courses specific to each major. It is not necessary to declare a minor.

Kevin Stetter, a junior majoring in both psychology and Spanish, said he chose to double major because it fits into his schedule. After completing a semester in Spain, he will almost be done with his Spanish classes, but will still have another year on campus.

"I thought, if I'm going to be here, what else can I do," he said.

The availability of psychology classes along with the flexibility of options after graduation appealed to Stetter. He said he wants to study college student personnel

at the graduate level, but wants to keep his options open.

Another way to earn two degrees is through a dual degree. This involves the completion of two bachelor's degrees from two colleges within the University. Students must complete the requirements for both degrees as well as 20 hours beyond the 122 hours required for one degree.

Graham said if a student wants to open her own art studio, it could be beneficial to get a degree from the College of Arts and Sciences with a concentration in art and a bachelor's degree from the College of Business.

But in most cases, Graham said double majoring is not in the best interest of students.

"A master's degree is way more marketable," she said. "It trumps two bachelor's, and most times you can get enough through a minor to gain a basic skill."

A third option for students is an intra-college degree, which is when students earn two majors within the same college. Requirements for a major and minor in each degree must be completed independently in addition to 32 extra hours. Courses counted for the first

degree can not apply toward the second degree.

This is not as common as the other options, Graham said. The College of Arts and Sciences tries to steer students away from doing it because it takes the longest time to earn in comparison to the other two options. Pursuing two majors can add one to three more years toward graduation, she said.

Although advisers discourage this approach, Graham said students will be approved if they have a reasonable rationale for doing so.

"We don't send away many disappointed students," Graham said. "We help guide them in the right direction of what they want to do."

Senior aviation studies major Robert Shirey considered double majoring because he thought it might provide more options and look impressive on his resume. He decided, however, to pursue a single degree after talking to an adviser who said there are plenty of jobs in the aviation industry that would accept his bachelor of science in technology degree.

Successfully completing one major is enough to impress potential employers, Graham said.

**Happy 2008!**

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## PEOPLE ON THE STREET What are your plans for Mardi Gras?



"I'm taking a chemistry test and doing fire safety checks."  
**SARAH DARIANO**,  
Sophomore, Biology



"I'm going to watch myself when I was on 'Oprah' two weeks ago."  
**TAURENCE ARMSTRONG**,  
Junior, Journalism



"I'm going to cook up Zatarain's rice, New Orleans-style."  
**CANDACE WOODWORTH**,  
Freshman, TCOM



"Eating and doing homework while watching the primaries."  
**BRAD KREINBRINK**,  
Junior, IPC

**VISIT US AT BGNEWS.COM**  
Have your own take on today's People On The Street? Or a suggestion for a question? Give us your feedback at bgnews.com.

## Facebook me for change



**ZACH FRANKS**  
COLUMNIST

What happened to the ability for thousands of people to organize for a common idea?

Forty years ago there was no such thing as cell phones. There were no e-mail accounts, no blogs, no file sharing and no Internet to speak of. If you wanted to contact somebody or share something, you only had a few options. You could do it in person, send the information through the mail or contact the person on the telephone and pay a long-distance fee.

Oh, but how things have changed in 40 years. Today I am able to call my friend in Los Angeles for the same price I can call my grandmother on the other side of town. I can send an e-mail to a friend in England and it will arrive before I could stuff a hand-written letter in an envelope, stick a stamp on it and take it to the post office. We are able to upload any sort of sound clip to our iPods and have it available on command at any time.

The amount of new forms of media and communication devices would seem unbelievable to anyone trapped in a cave since 1977, maybe even 1985. Most homes also have at least one computer. The number of people who carry cell phones is at a new height, and the number of people toting iPods is not far behind.

Even traditional forms of media and communication have been able to survive and thrive. Newspapers are produced daily in almost every town in America. Most homes in the U.S. not only have a television, but have one in almost every room. There are so many magazines in print that advertisers are able to appeal to readers with any interest.

With the number of media outlets and the new ways we are able to communicate, it is almost unbelievable that there have been no organized movements in the past two decades.

Just imagine how much larger the Million Man March would have been if its ability to organize and communicate was the same it is today. The protests for women's suffrage would also have been greatly affected by the ability to mass communicate their marches and gatherings, not to mention how quickly they could have done it. The sit-ins that were so popular in the '60s would have had the ability to shut down whole blocks

See **FRANKS** | Page 5

### WE'VE GOT A BLOG!

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[bgnewsforum.blogspot.com](http://bgnewsforum.blogspot.com)

## Missing the nation's moves toward facism

CONRAD PRITSCHER | GUEST COLUMNIST

What were the people of Brattleboro, Vt., thinking when they voted for impeaching President Bush and Vice President Cheney? Perhaps some of them had relatives living in Germany during the 1930s and '40s when Hitler was in power.

During World War II, my mother had two brothers in the American army and three brothers in the German army. My grandparents were living in Germany. After World War II, I met some of my cousins, uncles and aunts, and I found them to be very fine people. What I believe happened in Germany during Hitler's fascistic regime, to a degree, has happened here under Bush and Cheney.

We have moved much closer to facism. Some of us who notice the movement toward facism have been partly programmed to believe there is very little one can do because "that's just the way things are."

We can still speak against the secrecy, lying, cheating and unlawful power-grabbing of our president and vice

**"We can still speak against the secrecy, lying, cheating and unlawful power — grabbing of our president and vice president."**

president. With the lame duck power of Bush/Cheney, we can now fear facism less than during the last several years. I do not think it's now worth the time, cost and effort to impeach, but I wonder why I didn't speak against their threat of fascistic behavior sooner. I think I needed a nudge from Brattleboro.

If we don't speak against facism early enough, we may find ourselves in the position of my relatives when it was extremely dangerous for them to say anything against Hitler because of his excessive power-grabbing. Bush and Cheney have been trying to grab excessive power.

If Bush and Cheney were not now lame ducks, I would be for impeaching them. I am pleased with Brattleboro's action to sue for impeachment, even though it is a bit late. I have heard people I trust state,

and give some supporting evidence for, Bush's and Cheney's lying and cheating.

I believe a reason for more people not noticing the lying and cheating falls on our schools and universities for contributing to conformist groupthink rather than developing students who think for themselves. Our leaders have trained us, through our schools and universities, to avoid self-direction and to accept even lying and cheating. I now have so little trust in Bush and Cheney that I find it difficult to believe I'm living in a democracy.

A part of our programming is that we have allowed specialization to such a high degree that our "training" has led us to believe that somebody else will do something about our highest officials cheating and lying. If our schools and univer-

sities were more involved with "education" than "training," we would be more self-directing and we would have a better chance of knowing that we have power to do something about the fraud of our highest officials.

The programming to keep us in the dark has been so subtle we hardly recognize it. How many professors include in their course syllabus "development of self-direction and open mindedness?"

We have been trained to believe there are fixed ideas that exist for all times and all places. Yet science has clearly shown that all is in process, including what we think we know at any given time (including what I am saying at this moment).

See **PRITSCHER** | Page 5

## Hugged a Kenyan lately?

ROGER KIPCHUMBA | GUEST COLUMNIST

The University acts as a second home to 75 to 90 students from the picturesque tourist destination country of Kenya. Until last Dec. 30, this east African nation was the place to be. No one in his wildest dreams would imagine Kenya as a killing field since the last conflict more than 15 years ago.

Its economy defied the law of African economies by posting a growth of about 7 percent. Its inflation rate at the time was 14 percent.

A virus called election and a complication known as tribalism suddenly emerged, and it immediately became "legal" to kill a person of a tribe other than one's own.

Kenya sends more students to U.S. colleges and universities than other nations in Africa. At the University alone, more than four tribes are represented by students, and one can imagine how these students view each other now as compared to how they would if they were schooling in Eldoret, Kenya.

I have had my best friend since we were 4 years old (he is also a University student) and, suddenly, due to the fact that we have different tribal affiliations, we could be hunting each other down trying to "express" our feelings.

I grew up playing soccer and running track at a stadium right across the street from where more than 30 people were burned to death and many others shot with bows and arrows as the media promiscuously used the words "genocide" or "ethnic cleansing" to describe the situation.

It took 44 years for the people to resort to bows, arrows and

See **ROGER** | Page 5

## The right thing for Iraqis



**BRIAN KUTZLEY**  
COLUMNIST

Until now I have avoided writing about the war, waiting for some kind of prompt that would make it a timely discussion. Super Tuesday will have to suffice.

Sometimes the world needs a war.

In the past, that statement was a little easier to defend — there are few individuals who argue the U.S. should not have gotten involved in the world wars — but the same conditions and necessities still arise today.

That said, the War on Terror probably was not one of those times. Saddam Hussein had proven his willingness to use chemical weapons, but he was not threatening anyone but his own people. However, that rationale — the argument that the Middle East will always be in turmoil, so why should we get sucked in? — is what I wish to challenge.

The first tenant of American values is the equal value of human life. We may not execute this value at home as well as we should, but that is the measure by which we should judge ourselves. I say that to say this: Opposing the war in Iraq is blatant racism.

I do not especially care if we entered Iraq on faulty information about WMDs (although, if you were given a countdown to the exact moment your nation's borders would be crossed, I think you, too, would find interesting ways to make things disappear), nor am I waving the banner of national security. I do, however, care about lives won or lost by the actions our country has taken.

According to a pre-surge report by The Washington Post, the fighting between the U.S. military and insurgents in Iraq is causing more than twice the civilian deaths in a given time period as during Saddam Hussein's regime. While that is disturbing news, try turning it around for a moment.

Saddam Hussein's actions against his own people — did I mention the part about this being against his own people? — is comparable in scale to a war being fought in urban

See **KUTZLEY** | Page 5

### TOMORROW IN FORUM

Columns from Levi Joseph Wonder, Sean Martin and Sean Lutzmann.

(Look to your left — they're blogging, too!)

Schedule subject to change.



MICHAEL WEIGMAN | THE BG NEWS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Birthday e-mails deserve more serious treatment

I was sad to hear columnist Greg Chick mock the efforts of USG to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol. "All the ways a 21st birthday e-mail

won't cut drinking," Feb. 4).

It is tragically ironic that he suggests that "USG could send a touching, true-life story of some college student who passed away on their 21st birthday due to binge drink-

ing," when such an incident occurred just last semester here at the University.

I'm hoping Mr. Chick was merely ignorant of this story published on these very pages. Otherwise, it is shocking he would continue to "tune out" such a story as mere urban legend not take it seriously. The dangers are real and the consequences tragic.

I applaud the USG for tackling this subject in the wake of the tragedy here at the University last September.

— Christopher Rump  
Assistant Professor, Applied Statistics and Operations Research

### SPEAK YOUR MIND

Got something you want to say about an opinion column or news story? Here's how to get in touch with us for letters to the editor:

- E-mail us at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).
- Drop a note into our new comment box at the Union Information Center.
- Call us at 419-372-6966.
- Come to our newsroom in 210 West Hall.

Be sure to read the submission guidelines at the bottom of this page.

## THE BG NEWS

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**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** are generally to be fewer than 300 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

**GUEST COLUMNS** are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area. Two submissions per month maximum.

**POLICIES:** Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

**E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS** as an attachment to [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com) with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing. The editor may change the headlines to submitted columns and letters at his or her discretion.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the view of The BG News.



# Picking apart the case for the death penalty

MARK INGLES | GUEST COLUMNIST

In response to Sean Martin's column in the Jan. 30 edition of The BG News ["Treating killers the way they treat the rest of us, by killing"], I must say I cannot disagree more with his take on the death penalty.

The whole notion of the death penalty, according to the states that have them, is to deter future crime being committed by future criminals, something the death penalty does not do in this country. The United States is currently the only Western industrialized nation in the world that has a death penalty either on a state or national level, and our homicide rates do not show any deterrence.

The U.S. is ranked 24th out of 64 nations in order from most to least amount of murders, according to nationmaster.com. The rest of the western industrialized world ranked well ahead of us, with the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain and Germany being ranked 46 to 49th, respectively. Our law enforcement officials rank the death penalty as the least effective mode of deterrence, with only 1 percent of police chiefs ranking it as an effective mode of deterrence. This does not seem effective to me.

The mention of race in his column also shows some flawed reasoning. The claim that the only way to solve the racial bias concerning death row cases are to sentence more races to death to "even out the numbers" would not even anything out as blacks would still be put to death at the same rate, making the racial make-up on death row even more imbalanced.

Also, the column does not mention the biggest racial problem with our death penalty system: If the murder victim were white, there is a much higher chance of being sentenced to death as opposed to a black victim. According to a recent California study by the Santa Clara Law Review, if a victim were white, the chance of being put to death increased three times over than if the victim were black and four times more if the victim were Latino in the state of California. The study also found only 15 whites were executed for murdering a black person, as opposed to 223 blacks executed for murdering a white person.

Another study from the University of North Carolina in 1998 found 98 percent of district attorneys in death penalty states were white, as opposed to 1 percent black. This staggering imbalance shows the injustice of this system.

**"The best economic remedy might be to just get rid of the death penalty to save all that money that could go toward education or the police."**

The claim that an innocent person being put to death is a necessary evil to ensure justice is something that is basically indefensible. If an innocent person is put to death for a crime they did not commit, then the state and society as a whole just committed murder. How would you bring justice to that person's family? You cannot go out and execute everyone involved in the state or society for this crime, so we should just let it go?

The number of people being exonerated each year is rising with new technologies that prove a person's innocence. According to deathpenaltyinfo.org, from 1973 to 1999 there was an average of 3.1 exonerations per year. From 2000 to 2007 that number jumped to five per year. To most people, killing five innocent people is mass murder, and is something our society should not allow.

Executions are also very costly. According to a Los Angeles Times study, the California death penalty system costs taxpayers \$114 million more than if the convicts were sentenced to life without parole. That is government spending at its worst. Granted, this is at the high end — the lowest statistic puts the death penalty at costing taxpayers in North Carolina only \$2.16 million more than if sentenced to life without parole, according to Duke University.

For cash-strapped states, the best economic remedy might be to just get rid of the death penalty to save all that money that could go toward education or the police.

England rid itself of its death penalty system after one innocent person was put to death. With the rate of exonerations it is more than likely we have passed that number many times over. It is time to rethink our system of punishment in a way that does not include this system of tragedy.

— Ingles is a senior majoring in political science. Respond to his column at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

## ROGER

From Page 4

machete democracy since their voices were met with intimidation, arm-twisting and being lied to by the big-mouth politicians whose wallets gain financial mileage by the minute while the poor man (whose land was stolen from him decades ago) does not know where his next meal will come from.

As I am typing this, some youths have shot police, set ablaze their cars and made away with a couple of guns. Meanwhile the political noisemakers and a few party hardliners are discussing power-sharing strategies while the main causes of conflict are rigged elections, historical land injustices and an urge to forever remain in power by some crooks.

That is how the Kenyan politicians gave their people the permission to kill: with a machete! Have you hugged a Kenyan today?

— Kipchumba is a senior majoring in microbiology. Respond to his column at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

## KUTZLEY

From Page 4

centers. The difference being that there is an end in sight with the war, while Hussein's regime may well have passed to his sons, the charmers who maintained personal torture prisons, leaving no end in sight to the slaughter.

Instead, Iraqi women are able to receive an education — guarded by U.S. troops, I might add — and Iraqi civilians have elected a democratic government. And for those who do not consider this progress, just a few weeks back the Iraqi Parliament finalized a bill that would allow former Baath Party (Saddam's party) officials, those who did not commit or endorse crimes against humanity, to rejoin the bureaucracy, proving to me at least that they do intend to bury the hatchet and move on.

Now I should probably explain why opposing the War in Iraq is racist. Consider this statement: The United States should not have engaged in the Civil War. Instead, the North should have made whatever concessions necessary to preserve the Union, because the death of white men is too

**"The equal value of human life ... is the measure by which we should judge ourselves. I say that to say this: Opposing the war in Iraq is blatant racism."**

high a price to pay to end the enslavement and murder of non-whites.

Obviously that statement is a gross oversimplification of the Civil War, but any decent human should understand the repugnance of that argument. So why is that same logic permissible when the suffering is taking place far away?

At the end of the day, we have every indication that Iraq can follow in the footsteps of predominantly Muslim Turkey — they may still cause the U.N. some sleepless nights, but there are no summary executions or mass graves. The violence taking place in Iraq now is horrible, but the horizon is worth the cost. A heavy death toll now (it is a war, after all) buys the safety and longevity of future generations, to say nothing of the sewage, power and plumbing infrastructure our engineers have contributed.

The point is, what is being

gained is worth the cost. And yes, there are worse men out there than Saddam Hussein, and I would love to bring them down in the exact same manner.

There is also the argument that the U.S. cannot infringe on the sovereignty of other countries, but when their government's official policy involves the wholesale slaughter of its population, I have a slight problem with the whole sovereignty premise to begin with. Just as we paid dearly in the Civil War, both our military and Iraqi military and civilians are paying dearly to first ensure, and then preserve, their lives and freedoms. Any American who would deny them that chance is irrefutably stating the lives and freedom of Iraqis matter less than the life of a U.S. soldier. As Americans, such a stance is indefensible.

— Respond to Brian at

## FRANKS

From Page 4

of a city had they been able to communicate at such high efficiency.

Needless to say, the movements witnessed 30 to 40 years ago were only a fraction of what they could have been if the same ability to communicate was at the level it is today.

It seems like we are wasting all these amazing abilities to communicate. Just look at our ability to socially network.

We spend so much time on sites like Facebook and MySpace, posting inappropriate pictures and leaving ridiculous messages, that we don't even think about what we could be doing. We have been given a golden opportunity to bind together to change anything we want. We just do not seem to know what to do with what we have been given. What could have happened to us that we have taken such an amazing opportunity for granted?

It's not like we don't have any change to pursue. Our public education system is in the trash, with schools closing doors in alarming numbers. We are in two conflicts that have no end in sight, our health care system is cracked and close to being broken, and we might as well not even count on Social Security. The price of oil has become absolutely ridiculous and the issue of global warming hasn't even started to heat up.

Our generation needs to realize what we have to change, and that we have more of an ability to change it than ever. The fact that

**"It seems like we are wasting all these amazing abilities to communicate."**

we as a nation have not gathered in numbers for a change in decades is sad.

We need to look around and realize that when we want change, we need to demand it. Our government is not going to change for the better on its own, and our elected officials don't seem to be on our side very much anymore.

We need to stop hoping for change and start demanding it. We have the power to do what is right, and we should start using what we have to get what we need.

— Respond to Zach at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

## PRITSCHER

From Page 4

Change surrounds us and our narrow specialization trains us not to notice it. What I have found over many years of teaching philosophy of education at the University is that some of the specific objectives of courses are so narrow that their accomplishment contributes to knowing trivia. Excessive trivia accumulation may prevent higher mental development, which helps one decide for oneself what will secure or endanger one's freedom.

It has been so subtle that we don't even notice our lack of self-direction and our lack of willingness to do something about very serious problems.

Thomas Jefferson said that the purpose of education was to help each person decide what will secure or endanger his freedom. Our freedom

**"We don't even notice our lack of self-direction and our lack of willingness to do something."**

has been greatly endangered. Through subtle school and university narrow specializing, we barely notice it.

Psychologist Dave Doane mentioned how easily and insidiously fascism can occur and how schooling can help or disallow that process. Perhaps the Brattleboro citizens have been more educated than trained.

— Pritscher is a professor emeritus. Respond to his column at [thenews@bgnews.com](mailto:thenews@bgnews.com).

## CONGRATULATIONS

From the Office of Residence Life to  
**SMART Mentees and Mentors**

on making the

**Fall 2007 Dean's List**

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## Proposed Bush budget released, expected to fail

By Andrew Taylor  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The record \$3.1 trillion budget proposed by President Bush yesterday is almost sure to produce eyepopping federal deficits, despite his attempts to impose politically wrenching curbs on Medicare and eliminate scores of popular domestic programs.

The Pentagon would receive a \$36 billion, 8 percent boost for the 2009 budget year beginning Oct. 1, even as programs aimed at the poor would be cut back or eliminated. Half of domestic Cabinet departments would see their budgets cut outright.

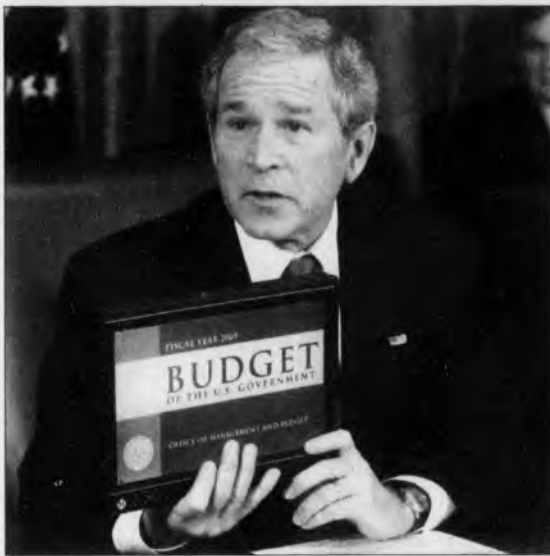
Slumping revenues and the cost of an economic rescue package will combine to produce a huge jump in the deficit to \$410 billion this year and \$407 billion in 2009, the White House says, just shy of the record \$413 billion set four years ago.

But even those figures are optimistic since they depend on rosy

economic forecasts and leave out the full costs of the war in Iraq. The White House predicts the economy will grow at a 2.7 percent clip this year, far higher than congressional and private economists expect, and the administration's \$70 billion figure for military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan is simply a placeholder until the next president takes office.

Bush's lame-duck budget plan is likely to be ignored by Congress, which is controlled by Democrats and already looking ahead to November elections. His long-term projections are mostly academic since he's leaving office next January.

The president forecasts a \$48 billion surplus by 2012, keeping a promise he made two years ago when strong revenue predictions made it look far easier. Now, he's relying on spending cuts — to do the job in order to keep his signature 2001 and 2003 tax cuts intact instead of expiring at the end of 2010.



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS | AP PHOTO

**BUDGETING:** President Bush holds up a laptop computer showing the electronic version of the fiscal 2009 Federal Budget during a meeting with members of his cabinet.

## Debate over 'big' bill

By Emily Wagster Pettus  
The Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. — A state lawmaker wants to ban restaurants from serving food to obese customers — but please, don't be offended.

He says he never even expected his plan to become law.

"I was trying to shed a little light on the number one problem in Mississippi," said Republican Rep. John Read of Gautier, who acknowledges that at 5-foot-11 and 230 pounds, he'd probably have a tough time under his own bill.

More than 30 percent of adults in Mississippi are considered obese, according to a 2007 study by the Trust for America's Health, a research group that focuses on disease prevention.

The state House Public Health Committee chairman, Democrat Steve Holland of Plantersville, said he is going to

"shred" the bill.

"It is too oppressive for government to require a restaurant owner to police another human being from their own indiscretions," Holland said yesterday.

The bill had no specifics about how obesity would be defined, or how restaurants were supposed to determine if a customer was obese.

Al Stamps, who owns a restaurant in Jackson, said it is "absurd" for the state to consider telling him which customers he can't serve. He and his wife, Kim, do a bustling lunch business at Cool AI's, which serves big burgers — beef or veggie — and specialty foods like "Sassy Momma Sweet Potato Fries."

"There is a better way to deal with health issues than to impose those kind of regulations," Al Stamps said. "I'm sorry — you can't do it by treating adults like children and telling them what they can and cannot eat."

## Mormon church appoints 16th president yesterday

Thomas S. Monson takes over the church of 13 million after passing of previous president Hinckley

By Jennifer Dobner  
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Thomas S. Monson, a leader who became known for his folksy storytelling as he ascended through church ranks, was introduced yesterday as the 16th president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Monson, 80, succeeds Gordon B. Hinckley, who died last month at age 97. Out of respect for the deceased president, the Mormon church never names a successor until after funeral services. Hinckley was buried Saturday.



**Thomas S. Monson**

Second-youngest Mormon president named yesterday

The church relies on a pattern of apostolic succession in selecting a new president. Since the early part of the 20th century, the position has always passed to the most-senior member of its Council of Twelve Apostles, the second-tier of church leadership. Monson was formally chosen Sunday and ordained in a pri-

vate ceremony inside the Salt Lake Temple.

Monson said he was prepared to follow Hinckley, and intends to travel the world to be among church members and to continue Hinckley's legacy of building small temples in places where the church is growing.

"It's not difficult because he blazed the trail," Monson said at a news conference. "I worked with him for so long — 44 years. We knew each other so well. I knew and testify afresh that he was the Lord's prophet."

Latter-day Saints know Monson as a compassion-

ate storyteller whose parables recount the stories of individuals resolving their struggles through faith.

As a senior church leader, Monson has served as an international envoy for the church and supervised the expansion of humanitarian programs. He's also known for forming ecumenical partnership with other faiths — an effort Monson said he planned to continue as church president.

"I think it's important that we eliminate the weakness of one standing alone and substitute for it the strength of people working together," he said.

## NATION BRIEFS

### Giants-Patriots game is second most-watched TV show ever

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Giants' thrilling win over New England was the most-watched Super Bowl ever with 97.5 million viewers, a total that is second only to the "M-A-S-H" finale audience, Nielsen Media Research said yesterday.

The game eclipsed the previous Super Bowl record of 94.08 million, set when Dallas defeated Pittsburgh in 1996.

The final "M-A-S-H" episode, which drew 106 million viewers in 1983, is the only other show in American broadcast history watched by more people.

### Two skiers missing during storm found huddling in snow caves

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two skiers who disappeared near Lake Tahoe during a winter storm were rescued yesterday after they burrowed into snow caves and huddled together for warmth, authorities said.

The two men, described as expert skiers, were spotted by the crew of a Placer County Sheriff's Department helicopter about seven miles from the Alpine Meadows ski resort, just west of Lake Tahoe.

Patrick Frost, 35, and Christopher Gerwig, 32, both of San Francisco, were picked up near Hell Hole Reservoir, department spokeswoman Kelly Hernandez said.

They were taken to Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital, where spokeswoman Janice Davis said they had suffered "really minor, minor" frostbite.

### Park police provide poor security at national monuments

WASHINGTON (AP) — Inadequate security has left national icons such as the Washington Monument and the Statue of Liberty vulnerable, according to a government report on the U.S. Park Police released yesterday.

The Interior Department's inspector general accuses the Park Police of an "overall lack of commitment to its icon security responsibilities," citing chronic understaffing along with a lack of coordination and training.

David Barna, a spokesman for the National Park Service, which includes the Park Police, said the service takes the report seriously. But he said some of the claims are untrue.

### Sept. 11 executive director had close ties to White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Sept. 11 commission's executive director had closer ties with the White House than publicly disclosed and tried to influence the final report to limit the Bush administration's responsibility, a new book says.

Philip Zelkoff, a friend of then-national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, spoke with her several times during the investigation that closely examined her role in assessing the al-Qaida threat.

He also exchanged frequent calls with the White House, including at least four from Bush's chief political adviser at the time, Karl Rove.

Shenon, a New York Times reporter, says Zelkoff sought to intimidate staff to avoid damaging findings for President Bush and Rice. Zelkoff and Rice had written a book together in 1995, and he would later work for her after the commission finished its job and she became secretary of state in 2005.

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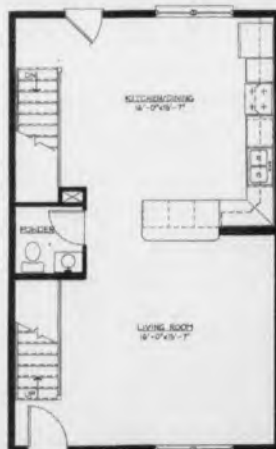


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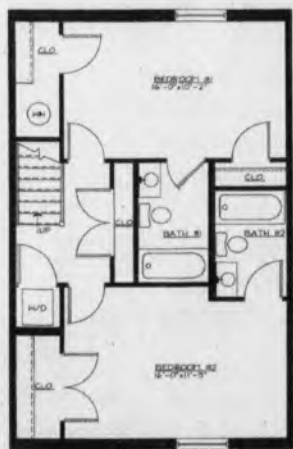
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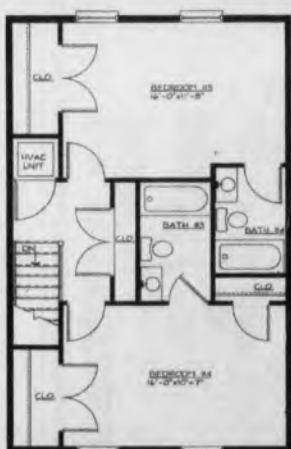
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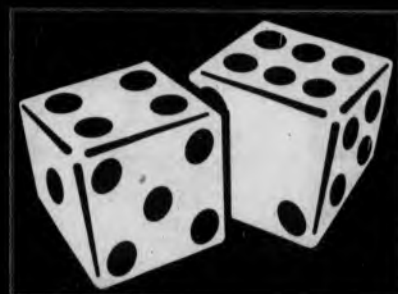
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## SIDELINES



## HOCKEY

## Cepis earns CCHA rookie honors

Jacob Cepis, a freshman forward on the BG hockey team, was awarded his second CCHA Rookie of the Week Award of the season yesterday. Cepis scored two goals at Ohio State on Friday.

## BASKETBALL

## Memphis on top of latest AP Top 25 poll

The undefeated Memphis Tigers were named the unanimous No. 1 team in the country yesterday by the Associated Press. Duke came in second place, with North Carolina, Kansas and UCLA rounding out the top five.

Page 8

## ONLINE

## The BG News Sports Blog

Be sure to take a look at The BG News Sports Blog for updates, inside information and periodical videos on your favorite BG teams. Also, check out the blog for live game updates for hockey and men's and women's basketball games.

<http://www.bgnewssports.blogspot.com>

## OUR CALL

## Today in Sports History

**1988**—Andre the Giant beats Hulk Hogan in the first prime-time wrestling match in 30 years.

**1978**—Fred Newman makes 88 consecutive free throws while blindfolded.

**1974**—Mats Wermelin of Sweden scores all 272 of his basketball team's points in a win.

## The List

Eli Manning's stunning performance in the fourth quarter of the Super Bowl brought to mind the great quarterback performances of the game's past. Today, we're listing five of the best.

## 1. Steve Young

**(Super Bowl XXIX):** Young was on fire, throwing for 325 yards and six TDs in a rout of San Diego.

**2. Tom Brady (Super Bowl XXXVIII):** 354 yards and three scores were good enough to beat the Panthers.

**3. Terry Bradshaw (Super Bowl XIII):** At the time, his 318 passing yards were a record.

**4. Joe Montana (Super Bowl XXIV):** "Joe Cool" threw five TD passes in a 55-10 rout of Denver.

**5. Phil Simms (Super Bowl XXI):** Simms completed 88 percent of his passes in the game.



GOING WILD: Giants fans celebrate their team's big win. Sunday's game featured the highest ratings in Super Bowl history.

GARY HE | AP PHOTO

# Marketing Giants

Super Bowl ratings the highest ever

By David Bauder  
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Giants' thrilling win over New England was the most-watched Super Bowl ever with 97.5 million viewers, a total that is second only to the "M-A-S-H" finale audience, Nielsen Media Research said yesterday.

The game eclipsed the previous Super Bowl record of 94.08 million, set when Dallas defeated Pittsburgh in 1996. The final "M-A-S-H" episode, which drew 106 million viewers in 1983, is the only other show

in American broadcast history watched by more people.

Yesterday's game had almost all the ingredients Fox could have hoped for: a tight contest with an exciting finish involving a team that was attempting to make history as the NFL's first unbeaten team since 1972.

But the Giants ended New England's bid for perfection, 17-14. Throughout the game, the teams were never separated by more than a touchdown.

Giants quarterback Eli Manning, who was to appear on David Letterman's "Late Show" on Monday, also won

bragging rights over his brother: Last year's win by Peyton Manning's Indianapolis Colts was seen by 93.2 million people, now the third most popular Super Bowl.

Fox, a division of News Corp., charged \$2.7 million for 30 seconds of advertising time on the game.

An eye-popping 81 percent of all TV sets on in the Boston area yesterday were tuned in to the game. In New York, the audience share was 67 percent.

See RATINGS | Page 8



DAVID J. PHILLIP | AP PHOTO

TOP OF THE HEAP: Giants linebacker Zack DeOssie celebrates the Super Bowl victory.

## Giants championship gear flying off shelves

By David Porter  
The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — The New York Giants aren't the only winners in the team's upset victory over the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl.

Hats, T-shirts and other gear bearing the Giants logo started flying off the racks at sporting goods stores around the New York area right after the game ended, and the NFL estimated yesterday that the total sales of official Super Bowl merchandise could surpass the \$125 million record set more than

a decade ago.

But with fans lining up to buy Giants-branded memorabilia, Boston merchants may be wondering what to do with their "19-0" hats and T-shirts.

Reebok, the NFL's official apparel provider, printed 300 hats and T-shirts for both teams as it normally does, according to league spokesman Brian McCarthy. But with the lead changing hands three times in the final quarter, the boxes contain-

See GEAR | Page 8



JASON DECROW | AP PHOTO

MERCHANDISE: A sporting goods store employee folds a pile of Giants Super Bowl shirts. Championship gear has been a hot item.

## Hall-of-Fame coach Knight stuns Texas Tech with sudden resignation

By Betsy Blaney  
The Associated Press

LUBBOCK, Texas — Bob Knight resigned yesterday at Texas Tech, a stunning midseason move by the winningest men's coach in major college basketball.

"He said he was tired and that it was best to go ahead and do it now," Texas Tech chancellor Kent Hance told The Associated Press. "I think Bob is through with coaching. I think he got to the point where it wasn't fun for him."

Known as much for his fiery temper as his basketball brilliance, Knight gave no hint a change was coming. He will be replaced by his son, Pat, a Red Raiders assistant.

The 67-year-old Knight informed Texas Tech athletic director Gerald Myers of his decision in a meeting around noon, Hance said. Knight then called Hance and told him.

"He thought about it Sunday all day and talked to his wife and decided 'This is something I want to do,'" Hance said.

The Red Raiders beat Oklahoma State 67-60 on Saturday, giving Knight his 902nd victory. He won national titles at Indiana in 1976, '81 and '87.

Knight was not available for



L.M. OTERO | AP PHOTO

SUDDEN DEPARTURE: Texas Tech head basketball coach Bob Knight resigned yesterday, effective immediately.

comment yesterday, said Randy Parley, a spokesman for the Texas Tech basketball program.

The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

first reported the resignation.

In September, Knight signed a three-year contract extension that runs through the 2011-12 season.

In 2005, Pat Knight was appointed his father's successor.

Knight arrived at Texas Tech in March 2001, six months after being

fired by Indiana for what school officials there called a "pattern of unacceptable behavior."

In his first six years at Tech, he led the Red Raiders to five 20-win seasons, a first at the school. They are 12-8 this season, including Knight's 900th victory last month against Texas A&M.

Texas Tech's next game tomorrow night at Baylor.

Knight passed former North Carolina coach Dean Smith as the winningest Division I coach Jan. 1, 2007, getting career win No. 880. To celebrate the milestone Knight chose "My Way" by Frank Sinatra, a mantra for how he navigated his personal and professional worlds.

"Bob is kind of a funny guy. He always loved that song 'My Way,' and this is another example," Hance said.

Back then, Knight explained why "My Way" was so fitting.

"I've simply tried to do what I think is best," Knight said. "Regrets? Sure. Just like the song. I have regrets. I wish I could do things better at times. I wish I would have had a better answer, a better way, at times. But just like he said, I did it my way and when I look back on it, I don't think my way was all that bad."



## Two more Browns heading to Pro Bowl

By Tom Withers  
The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Two more Cleveland Browns are headed to Hawaii for the Pro Bowl. Not bad for a team that didn't even make the playoffs.

Browns quarterback Derek Anderson will replace New England's Tom Brady and tight end Kellen Winslow will sub for San Diego's Antonio Gates on the AFC's roster for the Feb. 10 game in Honolulu.

Brady, sacked five times by the New York Giants and pounded throughout Sunday's Super Bowl, has been bothered by a tender ankle. In a release, the Browns did not provide a reason for Anderson replacing the Patriots star.

With Anderson and Winslow making the trip, the Browns will have six players in the Pro Bowl, the club's most since sending six in 1994.

Anderson, who began the season as Charlie Frye's backup, threw for 3,787 yards and 29 touchdown passes while going 10-5 as a starter for Cleveland,

"We're excited the Browns will have such a presence at the Pro Bowl this year...Both [Winslow and Anderson] will grow from this experience in Hawaii."

Phil Savage | Browns General Manager

which was edged out of a playoff spot because of a tiebreaker.

Despite playing on bad knees and with a separated shoulder, Winslow led the Browns with 82 receptions and had 1,106 receiving yards, the most by a Cleveland tight end. He'll undergo another surgery — his fourth since 2004 — on his right knee after the Pro Bowl.

Winslow had postponed the operation in anticipation of replacing Gates, who sustained a toe injury during the playoffs.

Anderson and Winslow will join Browns kick returner Joshua Cribbs, wide receiver Braylon Edwards, long snapper Ryan Pontbriand and offensive tackle Joe Thomas in Hawaii. Before this season, the Browns had

not had a player selected for the Pro Bowl since linebacker Jamir Miller in 2001.

"We're excited the Browns will have such a presence at the Pro Bowl this year," general manager Phil Savage said in a statement. "Kellen has overcome so much in the past two years and is a real catalyst for our team. Derek became the starter under difficult conditions after week one and led us to 10 wins and a 7-0 home record. Both will grow from this experience in Hawaii."

The Browns recently offered Anderson, who is scheduled to become a restricted free agent, a multiyear contract. If he does not accept the deal, the club is expected to sign him to a one-year \$2.6 million tender.



LANCE MURPHEY | AP PHOTO

STILL ON TOP: Derrick Rose (left) and the undefeated Memphis Tigers are the only unbeaten team left in Division I basketball.

## Memphis stays atop AP poll

By Jim O'Connell  
The Associated Press

This week, it's unanimous for No. 1 Memphis.

The only unbeaten team in Division I received all 72 first-place votes from the national media panel yesterday and became the first unanimous No. 1 team in The Associated Press college basketball poll since Florida did it for two weeks last February on the way to a second straight national championship.

The Tigers (21-0) won 89-77 at Houston and beat UTEP 70-64 last week.

Duke and North Carolina, who meet tomorrow night, moved up one spot to second and third. Kansas, which also started the week without a defeat only to lose 81-73 at Kansas State, dropped to fourth.

UCLA held fifth and was followed by Georgetown, Tennessee, Wisconsin, Stanford and Butler. The No. 10 ranking matches Butler's highest — the Bulldogs reached that spot for one week last season.

Michigan State, which lost 85-76 to Penn State on Saturday, dropped from eighth to 11th and was followed by Texas, Xavier, Indiana, Drake, Marquette, Washington State, Texas A&M, Connecticut



SARA D. DAVIS | AP PHOTO

PSYCHED: Kyler Singler and Duke have climbed to the No. 2 ranking.

and Kansas State.

The last five ranked teams were Pittsburgh, Notre Dame, Vanderbilt, Purdue and Saint Mary's.

Connecticut, Notre Dame and Purdue all made their first Top 25 appearances of the season, replac-

ing Florida, Mississippi and Baylor.

Connecticut (16-5) moved into the rankings for the first time since January 2007 on a five-game winning streak with three of the victories over ranked teams — Marquette, Indiana and Pittsburgh.

Notre Dame (16-4) was ranked for 11 weeks last season, including the last three. The Fighting Irish, who extended their home winning streak to 33 games with a victory over DePaul on Saturday, are 6-2 in the Big East, their best conference start since 2002-03.

Purdue (17-5) entered the poll on a seven-game winning streak that had the Boilermakers tied with Wisconsin for first place in the Big Ten. They were last ranked in 2003-04.

Florida, Mississippi and Baylor all dropped out after conference losses Saturday.

The Gators (18-4) were gone after a one-week stint at No. 20 following an 80-61 loss to Arkansas.

Mississippi (16-4) beat then-No. 19 Vanderbilt 74-58 earlier in the week, but the Rebels fell from 24th after losing 80-77 to South Carolina.

Baylor (16-4) had been ranked for two weeks — its first time in the poll since 1969 — before losing 80-72 to then-No. 10 Texas.

## GEAR

From Page 7

ing the gear sat just off the field, waiting to be distributed after the final whistle, he said.

In New York, New England and Phoenix, screen printers for the league's licensees were poised to start churning out products. It wasn't clear how many jumped the gun and started printing Patriots championship gear.

"We tell them not to begin pre-production, but it's at their own risk," McCarthy said. "We don't want to have a 'Dewey Beats Truman' situation," he added, referring to the Chicago Tribune's

infamous headline trumpeting the wrong winner in the 1948 presidential race.

For Giants fans, the buying frenzy began not long after wide receiver Plaxico Burress hauled in the game-winning touchdown pass from Eli Manning with 35 seconds left.

At a Sports Authority in Clifton, a few miles west of Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, fans bought up 1,000 items immediately after the game, then snapped up about 1,500 more by mid-afternoon yesterday, according to co-manager Angelo Rizzo.

In Princeton, Dick's Sporting Goods reopened shortly after the game ended Sunday night. Five

customers were already at the door, manager Dan Fisher said.

Fisher said he had been home watching the game and consulting with employees by phone about whether to put out the Super Bowl items.

"Because it was going down to the wire, it was like, 'Do you set it up or not?'" Fisher said. "It was quite a surprise to see New England lose."

At least one New England retailer took a cautious route. City Sports Inc., a Wilmington, Mass.-based chain with seven of its 14 stores in the Boston area, stuck with its policy of ordering a team's shirts and hats only if that team ends up winning a big game.

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School year - \$385.00 per month.  
One year - \$350.00 per month.

**720 SECOND STREET**  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bdrm, One Bath.  
School year - \$410.00 per month.  
One year - \$360.00 per month.

**810-815 FOURTH STREET**  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bdrm, One Bath.  
School year - \$435.00 per month.  
One year - \$370.00 per month.

#### TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Rates shown for Two Person Occupancy. One to Three Person Rates Available.

**505 CLOUGH STREET** - Behind Kinko's.  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath & Extra Vanity.  
School year - \$630.00 per month.  
One year - \$530.00 per month.

**402 HIGH STREET**  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bdrm, One Bath.  
School year - \$590.00 per month.  
One year - \$490.00 per month.

**701 FOURTH STREET**  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath W/ Vanity in Bdrms.  
School year - \$620.00 per month.  
One year - \$520.00 per month.

**810 FIFTH, 649 SIXTH, 707 SIXTH or 818 SEVENTH STREET**  
Furn. Or Unfurn. One Bath & Hall Vanity.  
School year - \$565.00 per month.  
One year - \$475.00 per month.

**724 S. COLLEGE DRIVE**  
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School year - \$630.00 per month.  
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MICHAEL SAWYER | AP PHOTO

**EVACUATION TO FRANCE:** A woman evacuee from Chad carries a child in a protective cover to keep her warm late on Sunday evening at Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport, outside of Paris, yesterday.

## Rebel battle spurs flee from Chad city

By Tom Maliti  
The Associated Press

**N'DIAMENA, Chad** — Thousands of people fled Chad's capital yesterday as government troops and rebels battled for a third day. Gunfire and explosions were heard throughout the city, a U.N. official said.

The U.N. Security Council condemned the rebel offensive and authorized France and other nations to send troops to help defend President Idriss Deby's government.

Casualties were believed to be high, and the violence threatened peacekeeping and aid operations intended to stabilize a wide swath of Africa that borders the war-ravaged Darfur region of Sudan.

"Fighting and shelling has started again in N'Djamena," said Helene Caux, a spokeswoman for the U.N. refugee agency. Speaking from Geneva, she said U.N. staff in Chad told her it was impossible to move around the city.

Earlier, officials said the rebels had withdrawn from the capital of the oil-rich country overnight after fierce resistance from government forces backed by helicopter gunships and tanks.

The rebels arrived on the city's outskirts Friday after a three-day push across the desert from Chad's eastern border with Sudan.

Riding on 250 pickup trucks mounted with machine guns, between 1,000 and 1,500 insurgents entered the city early Saturday, quickly spreading through the streets and reportedly trapping Deby in the presidential palace.

But by Sunday, government forces were strafing rebel positions with helicopter gunships and bombarding them with tanks.

"The Chadian army fought very vigorously and continuously regained ground around the presidential palace until yesterday afternoon when the rebels announced they were leaving the city," a French military spokesman, Capt. Christophe Prazuck, said yesterday.

"The fighting was heavy, the weapons used were heavy," he said. "Probably many people were injured or killed."

Rebel spokesman Abderaman Koulamallah said the insurgents had only pulled back "to give the population a chance to get out," leaving open the possibility of a renewed offensive.

## Nine Iraqi citizens mistakenly killed in U.S. al-Qaida operation

By Lauren Frayer  
The Associated Press

**BAGHDAD** — The U.S. military said yesterday it accidentally killed nine Iraqi civilians during an operation targeting al-Qaida in Iraq — the deadliest known case of mistaken identity in recent months.

In northern Iraq, Turkish warplanes bombed some 70 Kurdish rebel targets yesterday, the Turkish military said. It was the fifth aerial attack against Kurdish rebel bases there in two months.

Also yesterday, 15 suspected militants were killed in U.S. raids targeting a possible hideout for a senior al-Qaida in Iraq leader northeast of Baghdad, the military said.

The Iraqi civilians were killed Saturday near Iskandariyah, 30 miles south of the Iraqi capital,

**"We offer our condolences to the families of those killed in this incident."**

Patrick Evans | Navy Lieutenant

Navy Lt. Patrick Evans told The Associated Press.

Evans did not say exactly how the civilians died, but said the killings occurred as U.S. forces pursued suspected al-Qaida in Iraq militants. The incident is under investigation, he said.

"We offer our condolences to the families of those who were killed in this incident, and we mourn the loss of innocent civilian life," Evans said in a statement e-mailed to the AP.

## Suicide bomber kills 1, wounds 11 in Israel attack

By Laurie Copans  
The Associated Press

**DIMONA, Israel** — A Palestinian bomber blew himself up yesterday in this desert town near Israel's nuclear reactor, killing an Israeli woman and wounding 11 people in the first suicide attack inside Israel in a year.

Police killed a second attacker after a doctor found a suicide vest while treating him for wounds suffered in the blast.

The attack fueled Israel's fears that Gaza militants would exploit a border breach with Egypt to sneak into Israel. Militants claimed the bombers entered Israel through the porous Egyptian border, about 35 miles from Dimona, and said more militants were inside Israel waiting to strike.

In Gaza, gunmen fired in the air and relatives of the bombers passed out sweets to celebrate the bombing.

An offshoot of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement claimed responsibility, threatening to complicate recently revived peace talks.

Abbas condemned the violence from his West Bank stronghold. Israeli officials said peace talks with Abbas would continue, but vowed to push forward with the country's military campaign in



TSAFRIR ABAYOV | AP PHOTO

**CLEAN-UP:** A Zaka paramedic service volunteer cleans the bloodstains at the scene of a bombing in the town of Dimona yesterday after a bomber attacked a shopping center.

Gaza, which is controlled by the Islamic militant Hamas. Hours after the bombing, an Israeli aircraft attacked a car in Gaza, killing a senior militant who was involved in rocket attacks on Israel.

Speaking to parliament, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Israel is facing a "constant war" against Gaza militants. "This war will continue. Terrorism will be hit. We will not relent," he said.

While Palestinian militants have carried out dozens of suicide bombings since 2000, yesterday's attack was the first in Dimona, a working class town of 37,000 in the Negev desert that houses Israel's nuclear reactor.

## Kenyan government rejects mediation efforts amid crisis

**NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)** — Former U.N. secretary-general Kofi Annan said yesterday the Kenyan government and governing party have rejected his choice to lead mediation efforts in talks to end a deadly postelection crisis.

Cyril Ramaphosa, a South African businessman who had played a leading role in talks in his own country to end apartheid, withdrew "in the face of reservations by the government and Party of National Unity," and his withdrawal was accepted with regret, Annan said in a statement.

Ramaphosa said he could not function in the job "without the complete confidence of both parties."

"I thought I should withdraw



BERNAT ARMANGUE | AP PHOTO

**KENYA ELECTION VIOLENCE:** Former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan mediates talks between gov. officials and their opposition.

and go back to South Africa so I don't become a stumbling block myself," he told reporters outside the Serena Hotel, the venue of the negotiations.

The announcement came hours after Kenya's opposi-

ing political forces resumed talks to end weeks of violence following the disputed Dec. 27 election that brought President Mwai Kibaki back to power for a second five-year term. Violence since has

killed more than 800 and left 300,000 homeless.

There was no immediate comment from Kibaki's representatives or opposition leader Raila Odinga's team.

Violence, meanwhile, flared.

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# Former police officer accused of strangling

By Joe Milicia  
The Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio — Prosecutors accused a former police officer yesterday of strangling a woman who was pregnant with his child, dumping her body, then lying to investigators as thousands searched for her last summer in a case that received national attention.

Bobby Cutts Jr. was feeling the pressure of his crumbling marriage, financial debt and supporting several children, Stark County assistant prosecutor Chryssa Hartnett said in her opening statement at Cutts' trial.

"We are here because of physical pressure — the physical pressure he exerted around the neck of Jessie Davis for the several minutes it took for him to snuff the life out of her and her unborn child," she said.

Cutts' attorney, Fernando Mack, told jurors that they wouldn't like the fact that Cutts knew where the body was and left his 2-year-old son Blake alone for 26 hours, referring to charges of gross abuse of a corpse and child endangering.

But he said that prosecutors did not have the evidence that



MICHAEL S. BALASH | AP PHOTO

**PREGNANT WOMAN DEAD:** Former Canton Police Officer Bobby L. Cutts Jr. watches as the attorneys gather for a sidebar during a hearing held at the Stark County Jail Friday, Feb. 1, in Canton.

he killed Davis and only hoped to enrage them enough to convict him of a murder charge.

"They hope that you'll lose your way," Mack said.

Cutts, 30, a former Canton patrolman, has pleaded not guilty to aggravated murder, aggravated burglary and other charges in the death of Davis and her female fetus. He faces the death penalty if convicted.

Cutts was supposed to pick up his son on June 13, Jessie Davis' mother Patricia Porter testified.

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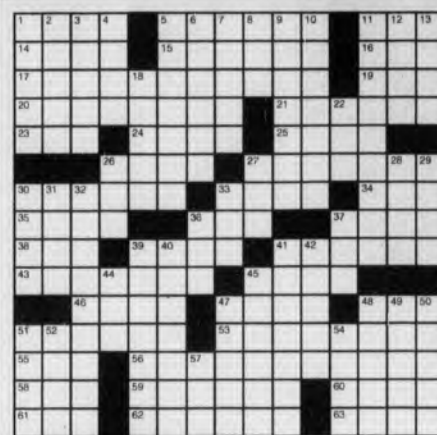
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- 1 Gap in time  
2 Become violent  
3 Bit of tomfoolery  
4 Cozy corner  
5 Like peekaboo shoes  
6 Remove from office by vote  
7 Pass on (to)  
8 Short life story  
9 Orphan's new parent  
10 Countries  
11 Hurry up!  
12 Lamenting's words  
13 Chew the fat  
14 Dated later  
22 Brain, spinal cord, etc.  
26 Actress Arthur  
27 Naughty  
28 Mine find  
29 Minus money  
30 Rolls of bills  
31 On-the-double letters  
32 Help  
33 LPs, updated

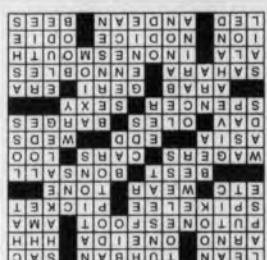
- 36 Always, to Keats  
37 Dryly humorous  
39 Sweet potato  
40 Beirut's country  
41 Corbin of "L.A. Law"  
42 Self-evident truth  
44 FDR's Blue Eagle  
45 Finger Lake  
47 Wish granter  
48 Duck past  
49 Get back to even  
50 Cigar remains  
51 Boat canvas  
52 Medicinal plant  
54 Ninnyhammer  
57 Offbeat

### ACROSS

- 1 Tilt to one side  
5 Wound topper  
11 Cul-de-  
14 Pisa's river  
15 Lake near Utica  
16 V.P. from Minn.  
17 With 56A, make a tactless remark  
19 Physicians' org.  
20 "Malcolm X" director  
21 Pointed stake  
23 & so on  
24 Put on  
25 Speech subtlety  
26 Highest quality  
27 Brian of "Family Ties"  
30 Bets  
33 Train units  
34 Old card game  
35 Polo destination  
36 Byrnes or Hall  
37 Makes one

- 38 War casualties grp.  
39 Corrida cries  
41 Canal boats  
43 Princess Di's maiden name  
45 Lolita-ish  
46 U.A.R. part  
47 Ex-Spice Girl Halliwell  
48 Bullpen stat  
51 North Africa, mostly  
53 Bestows a title upon  
55 Miss, neighbor  
56 See 17A  
58 Triac of tennis  
59 Slangy refusal  
60 Mutt of Garfield's jokes  
61 Shown the way  
62 From the mountains of Peru  
63 Nectar hunters

### ANSWERS



## Committee to assess disabled parking spot abuse

CLEVELAND (AP) — Difficulty that disabled people say they experience finding a designated parking space in Ohio is not surprising, considering that more than 1.2 million handicap tags — or roughly one for every 10 Ohioans — have been issued for display in vehicles.

Between 2000 and 2006, the last full year of available data, the number of placards assigned annually by the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles increased by more than 80 percent, according to The Plain Dealer.

Reviewing handicapped parking in Ohio is a major objective for the Governor's Council on People with Disabilities, said Tanya Fernandez-Mote, chairwoman of the advisory group.

"Our Access Concerns Committee as one of its objectives is putting together a working group to look at if there is a way alleviate any abuse in the

"But if they don't see a disability, they might think it's just an abuse."

Tanya Fernandez-Mote | Chairwoman

parking placard situation," she said yesterday.

But she also said the group intends to be cautious in its assessment, because it's possible for someone to think there is abuse when a user is legitimate.

"There are just so many variables to be taken into consideration," she said. "I am an electric wheelchair user missing my left arm and have little use of my right arm, so when people see me get out if a van they feel I naturally deserve a handicap placard. But if they don't see a disability, they might think it's just an abuse."

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